

Other VA Benefits Offered

VA Annual Clothing Allowance Benefit

The VA Annual Clothing Allowance Payment is paid annually to veterans with a service-connected disability or condition who must wear an orthotic or prosthetic device if that device causes the clothing to wear out or tear. The clothing allowance may also be paid if a veteran uses a medication prescribed by a VA provider which causes irreparable damage to his (or her) outer garments.

Home Improvement & Structural Alterations (HISA)

The HISA benefit is provided for the improvement and structural alterations a veteran needs to assure continuation of treatment and/or provide access to his home and essential bathroom facilities.

Automobile Adaptive Equipment Program

This program provides the equipment and training to enable veterans with disabilities to enter, exit, and/or operate a motor vehicle safely.

VISN 4 Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service

Points of Contact

Site	Point of Contact	Telephone
Altoona	Patti Kline	814-943-8164
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VISN 4 Office

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VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network



PROSTHETIC & SENSORY AIDS SERVICE



Serving veterans with:

- ◆ Amputations
- ◆ Blind and Visual Impairments
- ◆ Cardio-Pulmonary Disease
- ◆ Diabetes
- ◆ Hearing and Speech Impairments
- ◆ Muscular Dysfunction
- ◆ Neurological Dysfunction
- ◆ Orthopedic Needs
- ◆ Podiatric Needs
- ◆ Skeletal Diseases
- ◆ Spinal Cord Injury
- ◆ Traumatic Brain Injury

OUR ROLE & MISSION

The VA Stars & Stripes (VISN 4) Healthcare Network Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service is the case manager for the prosthetic equipment needs of eligible veterans. The Service also acts as the provider of various assistive aids needed by these veterans. Each of the ten medical centers within the VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network has a Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service.



The mission of VISN 4's Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service is to provide specialized, quality patient care by furnishing properly prescribed prosthetic equipment, sensory aids, and devices in the most economical and timely manner.



ITEMS ISSUED

When medically appropriate, these items may be issued by a Network VA medical center's Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service to eligible veterans:

- Adaptive Equipment
- Artificial Limbs
- Blind/Optical Aids
- Daily Living Aids
- Eyeglasses
- Hearing Aids
- Home Respiratory Supplies
- Home Telehealth Equipment
- Hospital Beds
- Mobility Aids
- Surgical Implants



ORTHOTIC & PROSTHETIC DEVICES

An *orthotic* helps improve functioning in patients who have suffered an illness or injury. Orthotics range from foot insoles and ankle braces to neck and back braces. The need for orthotic devices may be short-term, during the rehabilitation process, or long-term for a chronic condition.

Prosthetic devices are used for individuals who lose a limb due to accident or illness. Most new amputee patients require custom fitting of a prosthesis. Prosthetic devices also require ongoing care and re-fitting in order to preserve skin integrity.

For eligible veterans who may need an orthotic or prosthetic device, medical, technical, and therapeutic services are offered to:

- Evaluate needs
- Design custom devices
- Re-fit and adjust the item
- Perform gait analysis
- Recommend physical therapy intervention
- Communicate with the primary care provider to assist with ongoing medical care.

* The C-Leg® is a registered trademark of OTTO BOCK HealthCare.